

As to handle 55 of Toyama's hand stamp, applicant repeats that nothing in the patent hints at the design on top of the handle to be a recess or a cover over a recess. As the applicant has surmised in his previous comments on the illustrated handle, it is likely to be merely decorative, for instance of a different color than the rest of the handle. The Examiner has rejected this argument on the grounds that, although "Toyama does not teach a recess in the handle, ... one of ordinary skill in the art would realize that a delimited area indicated on the handle of a stamp, as seen in Figure 3 of Toyama, would most likely represent a receiving recess."

To show why applicant had a factual basis for reaching his previously advanced assumption on what Toyama's handle 55 shows, and why the Examiner is not correct in concluding that a person or ordinary skill in the art would interpret Toyama's Fig. 3 as representing a recess with a transparent cover to provide protection for information received in the recess, applicant encloses two pieces of sales literature, one by Colop, the assignee of the present application, and the other one by Trodat, a competitor firm. Both clearly show that it is common in hand stamps with a handle similar to that of Toyoma to use differently colored plastic parts on top of the handle, as a design feature. Considering this "real-world" showing of the practice in this art, it is respectfully submitted that the

Examiner's conclusion that the delimited area indicated in handle 55 "would most likely represent a receiving recess" can only be based on applicant's teaching, and that the evidence now placed of record shows that it would most likely represent a design.

As to the newly cited Hoshino patent, it is respectfully submitted to be far removed from applicant's claimed self-inking hand stamp or the Wall et al and Shih patents with which it has been combined. Hoshino's cover 57 is not a transparent cover detachably mounted over a receiving recess accommodating an information sheet, as claimed. It is a housing for fixed frame 5, support frame 6 and printing block 7 (col. 6, lines 17/18). There is no suggestion of a **top** side having a receiving recess for accommodating an information sheet. Rather, the "**front** surface of the cover 57 bears a display 58" (col. 6, 22/23). Thus, the automatic stamper of Hoshino differs fundamentally from the self-inking hand stamp of applicant and of the patents with which the Examiner has combined it and, most importantly, cover 57 and information 58 suggest nothing similar to features c)(3) and (d) of claim 19.

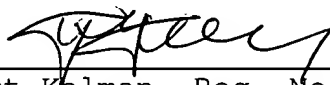
In view of the above, claim 19 is respectfully submitted clearly to be patentable over the art of record. Since the dependent claims define further features of the receiving

recess and/or the transparent cover, neither of which are suggested by the prior art in the context of the claimed self-inking hand stamp, claims 20-26 are believed to be allowable on their own merits.

A sincere effort having been made to overcome all grounds of rejection, favorable reconsideration and allowance of claims 19-26 are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernst FABER



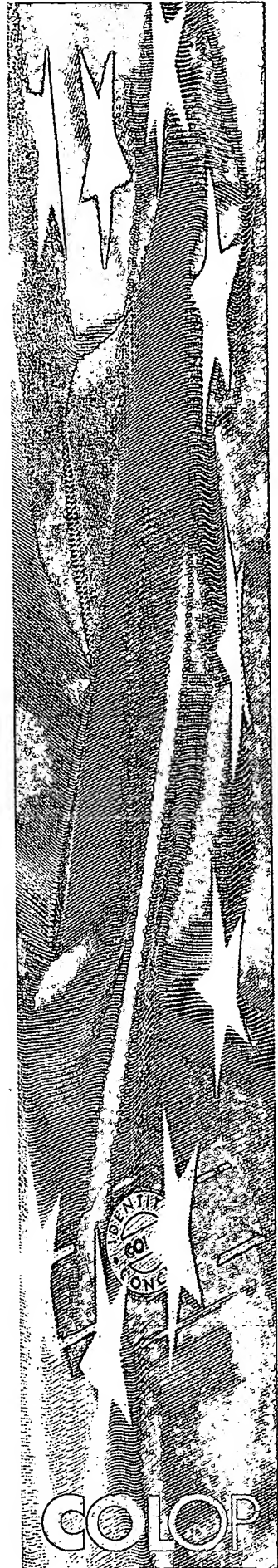
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Enclosure: 2 pieces of sales literature

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP Non-Fee Amendment, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on November 4, 2003 .

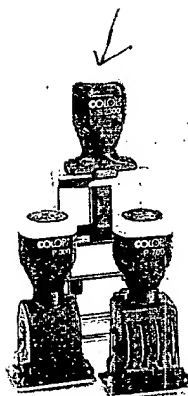

Maria Guastella





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Pad holds firmly in
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30 NOV 1998

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Spare pad: E/2300

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JOHN STEVENS

30 NOV 1998

FORD MOTOR CO.
DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

Print area: 30 x 45 mm
Spare pad: E/2300

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PHARMACIE CENTRALE

+ **30 NOV 1998** **+**

22, Place Paré
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Spare pad: E/2400

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DUPONT LTD.

Invoiced			
GG 1	30 NOV 1998		GG 3
GG 2			GG 4
1	2	3	4

Print area: 37 x 58 mm
Spare pad: E/2600

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Available with the date left, right
or in the centre of the plate.

**SPARBANKEN
VÄSTERNORRLAND**

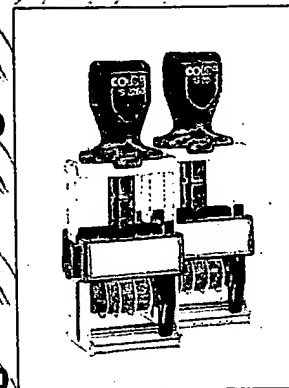
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Handläggare

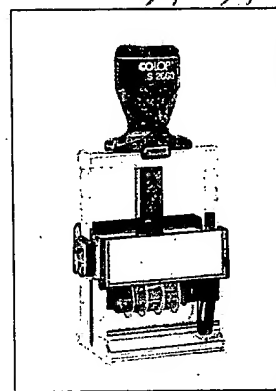
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\$ 2860

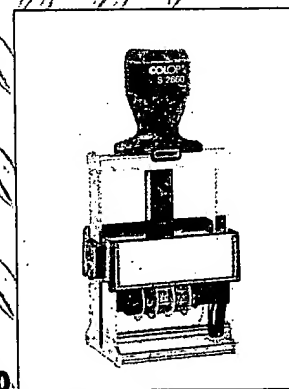


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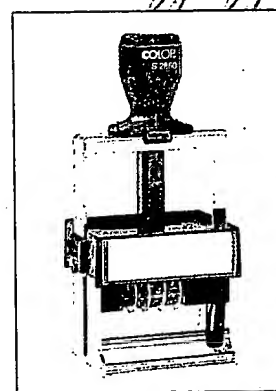
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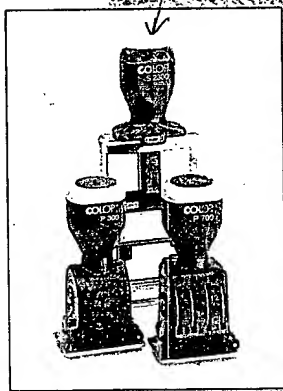
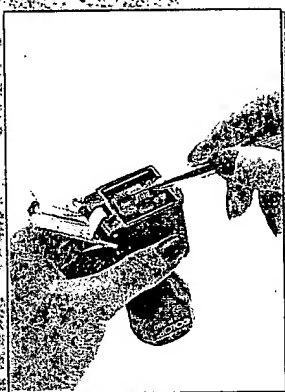
\$ 2860

COLOP





P 300



P 300/10 P 700/10
25 x 35 mm

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P 300/33 P 700/33
35 x 45 mm

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P 300/11 P 700/11
35 x 50 mm

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P 300/15 P 700/15
40 x 54 mm

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P 300/12 P 700/12
35 x 55 mm

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P 300/13 P 700/13
35 x 60 mm

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P 300/16 P 700/16
40 x 60 mm

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P 300/17 P 700/17 40 x 70 mm not illustrated
P 300/18 P 700/18 50 x 70 mm not illustrated

Plate assortment:

P 300/10	P 700/10	25 x 55 mm
P 300/33	P 700/33	35 x 45 mm
P 300/11	P 700/11	35 x 50 mm
P 300/12	P 700/12	35 x 55 mm
P 300/13	P 700/13	35 x 60 mm
P 300/14	P 700/14	35 x 70 mm
P 300/32	P 700/32	51 x 51 mm
P 300/15	P 700/15	40 x 54 mm
P 300/16	P 700/16	40 x 60 mm
P 300/17	P 700/17	40 x 70 mm
P 300/18	P 700/18	50 x 70 mm
P 300/19	P 700/19	ø 51 mm
P 300/34	P 700/34	ø 44 mm
P 300/22/oval	P 700/22/oval	44 x 67 mm

Special plates:

P 300/S1	P 700/S1	100 x 100 mm
P 300/S2	P 700/S2	70 x 55 mm
P 300/S3	P 700/S3	35 x 75 mm
P 300/S4	P 700/S4	35 x 75 mm
P 300/S5	P 700/S5	35 x 54 mm

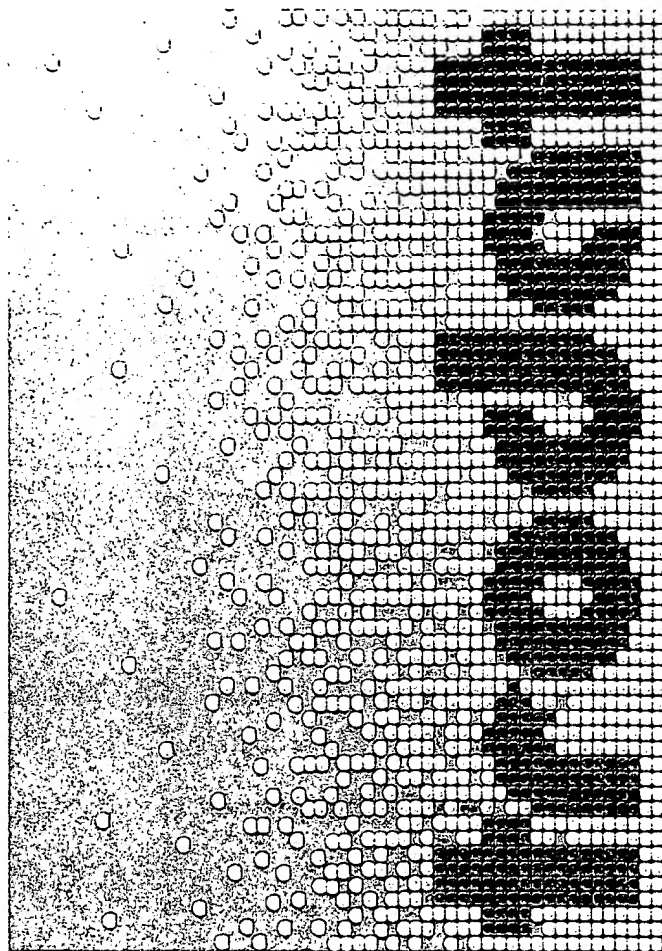
P 300 - P 700 with time plate:

P 300 - P 700 / UZ/12H	ø 50 mm
P 300 - P 700 / UZ/24H	ø 50 mm

Metal plates of P 300 and P 700 are identical!

Other special plates on request.

P 300/14 P 700/14 35 x 70 mm not illustrated



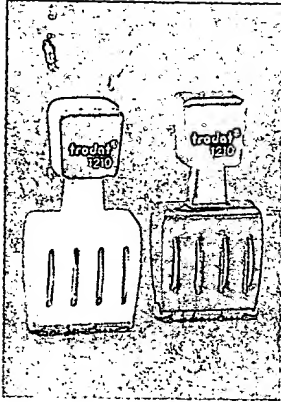
DER KATALOG

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Die bei Stativ- und Datumstempel angegebene Bemaßung bezieht sich auf das maximal mögliche Abdruckmaß.

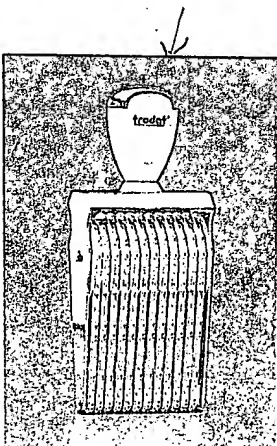


1200 – 1220 Bänderdatumstempel mit Kunststoffgehäuse

1200 Schriftgröße: 3 mm	29. AUG. 1999	verpackt per 10 Stk.
1210 Schriftgröße: 4 mm	30. Nov. 1999	verpackt per 10 Stk.
1220 Schriftgröße: 5 mm	28. Feb. 1998	verpackt per 10 Stk.

1300 – 1320 Bänderdatumstempel mit Metallverkleidung

1300 Schriftgröße: 3 mm	10. NOV. 1999	verpackt per 10 Stk.
1304 Schriftgröße: 3 mm	10. 10. 99	verpackt per 10 Stk.
1310 Schriftgröße: 4 mm	30. Nov. 1993	verpackt per 10 Stk.
1314 Schriftgröße: 4 mm	18. 10. 98	verpackt per 10 Stk.
1320 Schriftgröße: 5 mm	28. Feb. 1999	verpackt per 10 Stk.



3/12 – 5/16 Alphabetstempel

Verpackt im Karton zu 2 Stück.

3/12 Schriftgröße: 3 mm	F G H J + x - . / 1 2 3
3/16 Schriftgröße: 3 mm	D E F G H J + x - . / 1 2 3 4 5
3/20 Schriftgröße: 3 mm	A B C D E F G H J + x - . / 1 2 3 4 5 6

Die Bänder mit 3 mm Schriftgröße tragen zusätzlich zum Alphabet die Ziffern 0 – 9 und die Zeichen / - . + x

5/9
Schriftgröße: 5 mm

5/12
Schriftgröße: 5 mm

5/16
Schriftgröße: 5 mm

TRODAT - AL

TRODAT - ALPHA

TRODAT - ALPHABETS

Die Bänder mit 5 mm Schriftgröße tragen zusätzlich zum Alphabet die Zeichen / -
Ziffernbänder 0 – 9 separat lieferbar.